

Please add the following new claims.

B2
--28. A catalyst comprising a modified carbonaceous material having attached at least one organic group, wherein said organic group comprises an aromatic group or a C₁-C₁₂ alkyl group directly attached to the carbonaceous material.

29. The catalyst of claim 28, wherein said organic group is (C₆H₄)-SO₃⁻Na⁺, (C₆H₄)-SO₃⁻Li⁺, OR (C₆H₄)SO₃⁻K⁺.

30. The catalyst of claim 28, wherein said organic group is p-C₆H₄SO₂NH₂ or -C₆H₄NH₂.

31. The catalyst of claim 28, wherein said organic group is hydrophilic.

32. The catalyst of claim 28, wherein said modified carbonaceous material is activated carbon or carbon black.

33. The catalyst of claim 28, wherein said organic group contains an exchangeable ion.

34. The catalyst of claim 28, wherein said organic group further comprises a functional group.

35. The catalyst of claim 28, further comprising an ionic group, an ionizable group, or a mixture thereof.

36. The catalyst of claim 34, wherein said functional group is a sulfonic acid group, a sulfinic acid group, a phosphonic acid group, a carboxylic acid group, a quaternary ammonium group, a quaternary phosphonium group, or a salt thereof.